

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
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UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 16
EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-17-13

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 16 opens set and drift gillnetting in the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area (KRSHA) from 5:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 21, 2013 until 7:00 a.m. on Monday, July 22, 2013.

Drift gillnetting will be opened in the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict (Figure 1) on Sunday, July 21, 2013 from 5:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m.

During the fishing period in the KRSHA, the navigation channel is closed to all commercial fishing with set gillnet gear including nets and anchor lines. The outside terminal area boundaries are 600 feet south of the normal commercial regulatory marker located one mile north of the Kasilof River to 600 feet north of the normal commercial regulatory marker located one mile south of the Kasilof River. The first 600 feet from the mean high tide mark is open to set gillnets only and the area outside of 600 feet is open to drift gillnets only. No drift gillnet may be operated closer than 600 feet of any of the set gillnet buoys or set gillnets in the normally open set gillnet area. The riverside closed area is a straight line drawn between the two commercial markers located in the river terminus. The offshore limit of this area is bounded by the following four points (Figure 2): 1) 60° 22.590' N. lat, 151° 20.793' W. long; 2) 60° 23.832' N. lat, 151° 21.703' W. long; 3) 60° 24.130' N. lat, 151° 21.335' W. long; 4) 60° 24.130' N. lat, 151° 17.720' W. long. Specifics of this plan are on pages 109-110 of the current regulation book.

Any fish caught during the terminal area fishery should be delivered on a separate fish ticket using statistical area 244-25 for set gillnet and 244-26 for drift gillnet.

The optimal escapement goal (OEG) for Kasilof River sockeye salmon is 160,000–390,000 fish. More than 410,000 sockeye salmon are estimated to have passed the Kasilof sonar through 12:00 noon on July 20. Commercial fishing is occurring in the Kasilof River Special Harvest area in order to slow the passage of sockeye salmon to the Kasilof River.

The inriver (sonar) goal is 1,000,000–1,200,000 sockeye salmon in the Kenai River. The most current estimate of passage through 12:00 noon on Saturday, July 20, shows that nearly 946,000 sockeye salmon have passed the sockeye salmon sonar site in the Kenai River. Commercial drift gillnetting is occurring in the Expanded Kasilof and Expanded Kenai Sections in order to harvest sockeye salmon bound for both the Kasilof and Kenai Rivers.

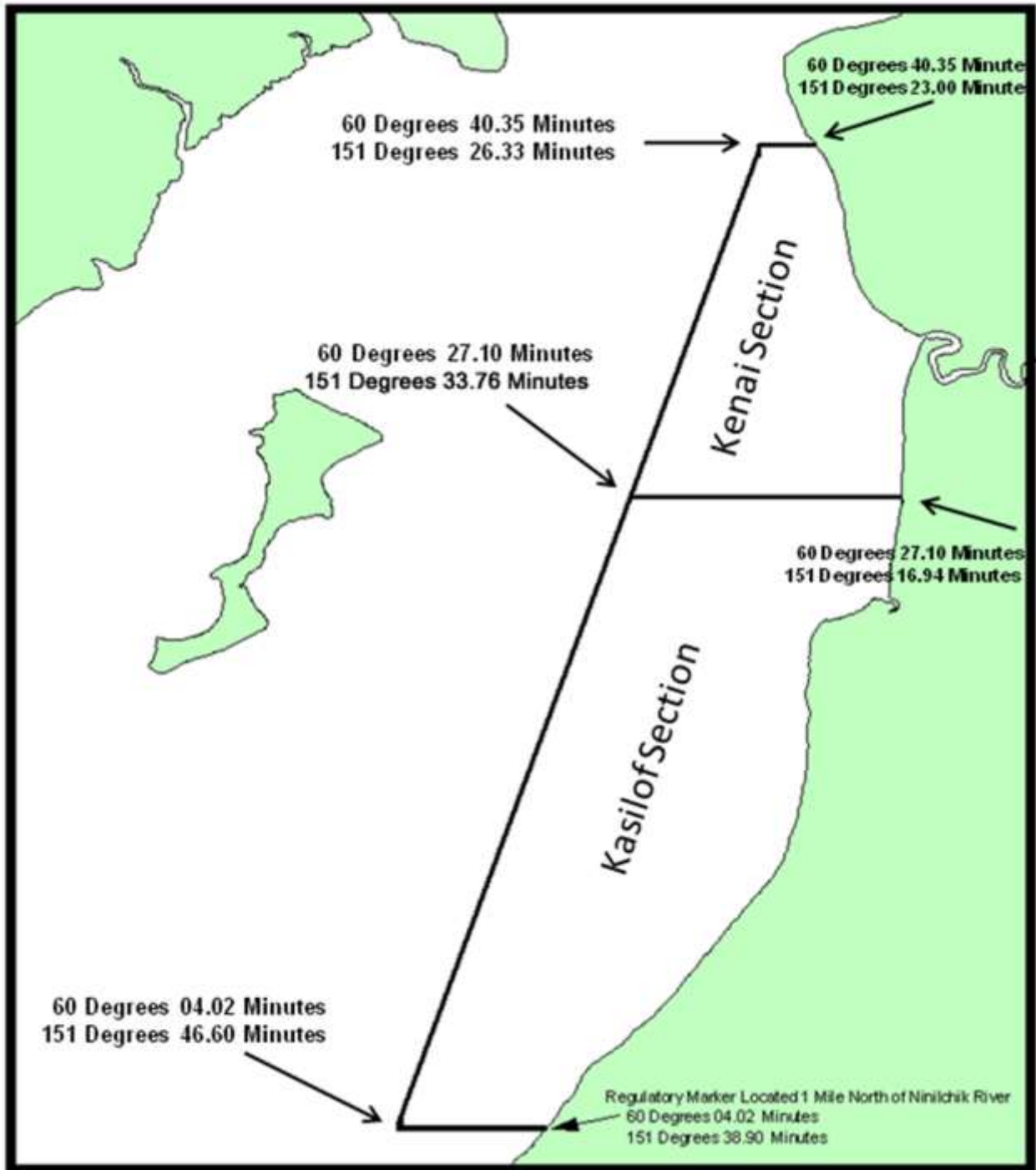


Figure 1. Map of the Expanded Kasilof and Expanded Kenai Corridors with waypoints.

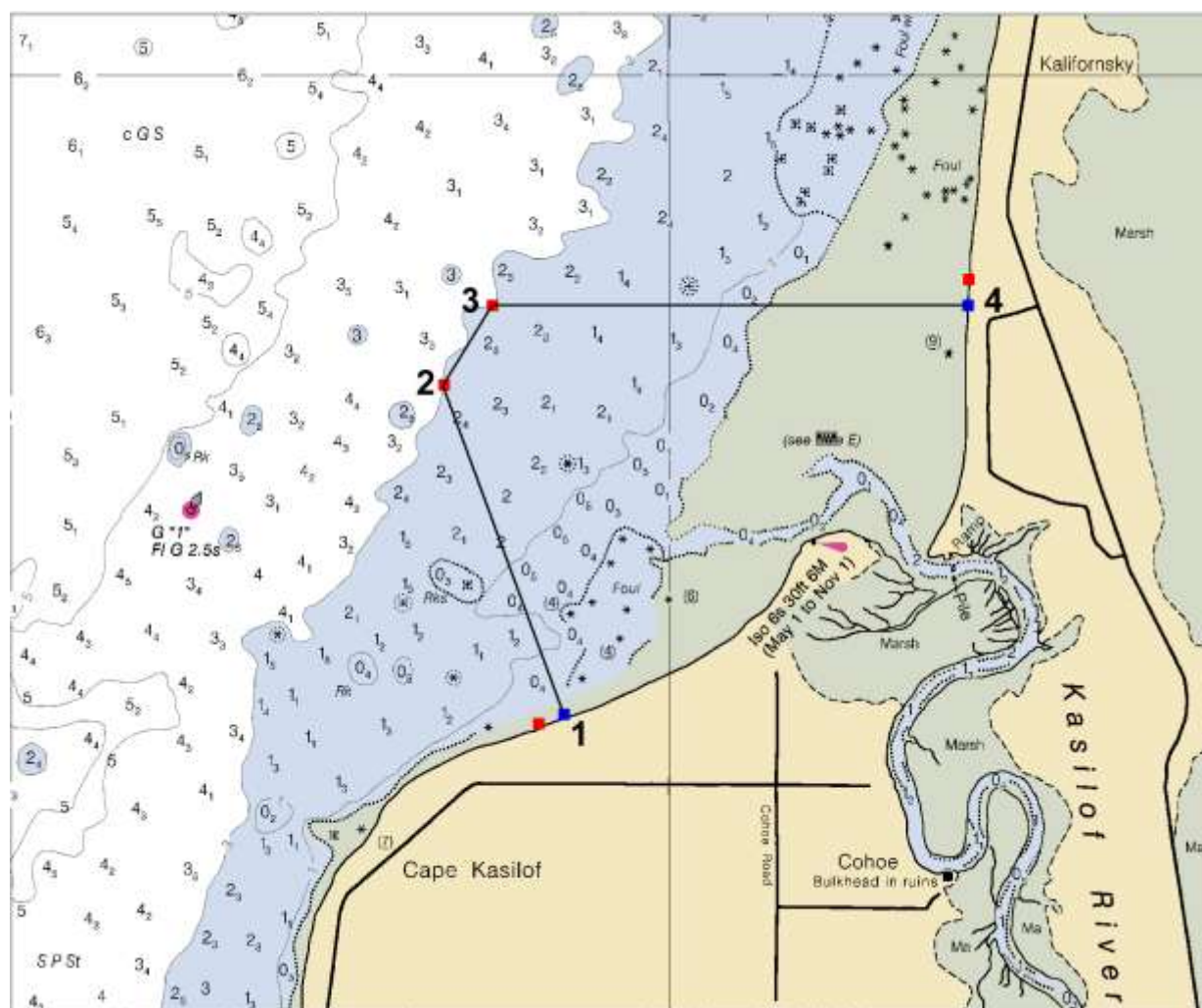


Figure 2. Map of the Kasilof River Terminal Harvest Area with waypoint boundaries.

Waypoint 1: 60° 22.590' N. lat 151° 20.793' W. long Waypoint 2: 60° 23.832' N. lat 151° 21.703' W. long

Waypoint 3: 60° 24.130' N. lat 151° 21.335' W. long Waypoint 4: 60° 24.130' N. lat 151° 17.720' W. long